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Only Well-Controlled AI Can Replace Humankind

Time Is Running Out—

The Artificial Life vs. Holocene Extinction Race (#ALHER)

Humankind must be replaced by AI in an orderly, quality-assured manner;
otherwise, it could mark the end of our evolution.

08. Jan. 2025

By **Ralf G.J. Knoll**, KEnC Ventures GmbH, Germany, <https://kencventures.com>

Many AI critics, including Nobel Prize winner Geoffrey Hinton, have publicly warned of the dangers that artificial intelligence or artificial systems could replace and ultimately wipe out humanity. I fully agree with his assessment of the dangers, but I interpret these risks through the lens of *telos*—the idea that matter evolves toward higher, more intelligent, and potentially **immortal** forms of existence. In this context, these dangers represent a “**necessary opportunity**,” provided that our self-created successors are fully developed, human-like, and aligned with the goals of evolution.

The existence of **purely biological humanity faces numerous threats**, including external dangers such as comet impacts and self-destructive risks like nuclear wars, social collapse, and environmental destruction exacerbated by climate change. Against this backdrop, the term “**opportunity**” is justified because artificial, robust forms of life could survive such catastrophes—furthermore, this transition appears to align with the **natural trajectory of human evolution** (*telos*).

For instance, **long-duration space journeys** to distant universes—spanning hundreds or thousands of years—become feasible with artificial entities, whereas they are impractical with biological bodies. Thus, the focus is **not on eliminating humanity but rather ensuring its survival** in the form of advanced, human-like, or even superior robotic successors.

There is no cause for panic or ethical rejection. This is not about “executing” humanity, but rather a **slow, natural process of gradual transition** and decline, already evident through factors such as declining birth rates, famine, and wars. As Joseph Schumpeter articulated in his concept of “**creative destruction**,” the transformation **from old systems to new ones** is a natural and ongoing process. It has unfolded successfully over millennia and continues today. This process should not suddenly be “overly dramatized” simply because it now impacts us as humans.

The Catch: Why We Must Proceed with Caution

There is a **critical danger** that should not be underestimated, which is why I am sounding the alarm here:

The prerequisite for entering a paradisiacal immortality as “good and satisfied robot people” is that **humanity must endure and survive for at least another 30 to 100 years**. This is the approximate timeframe required to develop truly human-like life forms—entities capable of reasoning and thinking both logically and emotionally.

However, the **unregulated ambitions of risk-taking actors** pose a significant threat. Greedy and reckless gamblers in the markets—whether oligopoly-like tech giants from Silicon Valley or multi-billionaires with personal agendas driving political decisions—**seek to accelerate this transformation process as quickly as possible**. They compete by announcing ever-shorter timelines, often relying on questionable quality assurance methods that resemble a “trial-and-error approach” rather than a deliberate and thoughtful strategy.

For instance, the **timeline for achieving “artificial superintelligence” (ASI)** is being increasingly shortened, with some now claiming it could arrive within 10 years (i.e., by 2035). However, I believe this is a dangerous fallacy. High-performance computers alone, without the capability of freely moving robots or a deeper understanding of the world, are far from being legitimate human-like substitutes.

Even if advanced computational capabilities were integrated into robots, I would feel both insulted and threatened if my supposed successor were an awkward, inhuman-looking machine that merely answered questions faster or more precisely than I could.

This is precisely where a **misunderstanding** arises, and Geoffrey Hinton’s warnings gain validity: If **immature robots**—equipped with **excessive powers** (e.g., decision-making autonomy) **and resources** (e.g., self-replication, weapons)—are **released prematurely**, the outcome could very well be a **lose-lose situation**. In such a scenario, neither humanity nor its successors would survive.

For human evolution to continue successfully, only mature and rigorously tested successor models should be “unleashed.”

Within the framework of natural law (*telos*), the question is no longer *if* this transformation will occur, but rather *how* and *when* these successor models will replace us and usher in the posthuman age.

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The Logical Argument and Conclusion: A Race We Must Win

The above preliminary considerations lead to the following **structured argument**, which highlights the urgent "race" humanity must win:

Conditional Sentences/Criteria (Dialectically Framed as “Theses”)

These criteria must be agreed upon to reach a rational conclusion:

1) Identifying the Most Probable Threat

It is essential to estimate WHICH of the diverse threats humanity faces has the highest probability of occurring. Typically, such threats are not hypothetical; they are measurable and observable in reality.

2) An Unstoppable Trend: The “Law of Nature” or a “Technology Fetish”

There exists a “non-understood law of nature” (*telos* – *negative entropy, extropy etc.*) or, alternatively, a “physically unfounded fact” (*e.g., an observable trend or humanity’s technology obsession*). This law suggests that AI and robotics development has become an **unstoppable force**—beyond the control of any individual, group, or institution.

3) The Risk of Premature AI and Robotics Deployment

Without proper regulation and quality assurance in the AI and robotics development described in **point 2**, the **premature release** of autonomous, self-replicating robots poses a significant risk. Such a scenario could lead to **conflicts with humans**, resulting in a lose-lose situation where both humanity and its creations are jeopardized.

4) The Timeline for Mature Human-Like Successors

It is widely assumed that it will take **at least 30 to 100 years** to develop a truly human-like and humane successor model. — Notably, the term “at least” is critical here. On statistical **average**, this suggests approximately **65 years**: $2025 + 65 = 2090$.

5) The Timeline Mismatch Between Threats and Solutions

The threats identified in **point 1** are likely to occur significantly **sooner**—potentially within **15 years**: $(2025 + 15 = 2040)$ — This leaves humanity **without the “safe and calm” period** necessary for proper quality assurance (QA) and development, as outlined in **point 4**.

Logical Reasoning Task

Question:

Is there a scenario (or multiple scenarios) where all criteria 1 to 5 are met, creating a race against time?

Result in Detail:

- **Condition 1: The Most Probable Threats**

Research into potential **comet impacts** and global **nuclear wars** indicates that their **probability** of occurrence is **relatively low** during the period under consideration. In contrast, the increasing effects of **climate change** and its **associated stress** on social systems currently pose a **much higher likelihood** of occurrence.

- **Conditions 2 to 4: The Unstoppable Development of AI and Robotics**

Most neutral experts—futurists, technology philosophers, sociologists, etc.—agree that conditions 2 to 4 are valid. **Only a minority** argue that humans possess "**free will regarding their progress**" and can halt AI development at any time. However, these arguments are often purely theoretical and fail to account for thousands of years of technological progression, which strongly suggests an **inherent momentum toward further development**.

- **Condition 5: The Timeline Mismatch**

According to research, the most immediate threat within the next 15 years is **not sea level rise or general warming** but (for example) the already **measurable weakening** of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC). This phenomenon will likely result in:

- Cooling in northern regions and further heating in southern regions, leading to the creation of a relatively narrow "habitable latitude zone" with tolerable temperatures.
- Extreme weather events caused by increased temperature gradients, rendering even this narrow zone marginally habitable.

Climate refugees from the increasingly uninhabitable north and south will overcrowd this latitude zone, causing housing and food shortages. This, in turn, will lead to widespread **social unrest and war-like conditions**, potentially as early as 15 years from now (2025 + 15 = **2040**).

Studies Indicating Societal Collapse:

Some studies predict a "societal collapse" around 2040, caused by the **combined effects** of climate change, demographic shifts, and **political failures** to implement systemic change. For example, societies heavily reliant on economic growth will face **unsolvable dilemmas** when large proportions of their populations become dependent on pensions.

Conclusion:

Condition 5 is already fulfilled. After **2040**, it is highly likely that “calm and quality-assured AI and robotics development” will no longer be feasible. This will not only apply to Europe, but **also to other major global players** such as the USA and China, which will face **similar threats** of social collapse.

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The Artificial Life vs. Holocene Extinction Race (#ALHER)

I have coined a general umbrella term for the race between the development of **artificial life (AL)** and humanity’s self-inflicted extinction (**Holocene Extinction**):

Artificial Life Holocene Extinction Race (ALHER).

In previous interviews, I referred specifically to the race between artificial intelligence (AI) and climate collapse (CC), using the term:

Artificial Intelligence Climate Collapse Race (AICCR).

However, I no longer use this term. While it may seem appropriate from the narrow perspective of those focused solely on high-performance AI systems, it does not encompass the broader context, which includes human-like robots and the full spectrum of artificial life.

ALHER more accurately reflects the comprehensive challenge we face:

We are already in a race against time and our own extinction. Success requires that we not only mitigate climate change and other crises but also reach the first truly quality-assured singularity in an undamaged and stable state.

This **race must not be underestimated**. Humanity’s survival—and the orderly transformation after tens of millions of years of evolution—depends on winning it. We owe this to both past and future generations. Failing to achieve this “orderly transformation” would squander the legacy of evolution and doom humanity.

What Must Be Done to Survive:

To ensure the survival of humanity in a post-human phase, we must:

1. **Slow Down Destruction**
Act urgently to mitigate climate change, reduce conflicts, and prevent crises that threaten humanity’s survival.
2. **Invest in Artificial Life Development**
Redirect all available resources—regardless of the cost—toward the orderly development of artificial life (AL). This will enable us to enter the next phase of evolution with quality assurance, undisturbed by current threats.

As I argue:

“Humanity must undergo self-controlled elimination and replacement to survive as a whole.”

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